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RL:0309

Proposal 198 RELATING TO PUBLIC HEARING ON LAND USE

Statement for
Con Con Committee on Environment, Agriculture,
Conservation and Land
Public Hearing 11 August 1978

by
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Proposal 198 would amend Article X of the Constitution and provide that certain types of major land-use decisions should be the subject of public hearings. This statement on the proposal does not reflect an institutional position of the University of Hawaii.

Public hearings are now required on major decisions concerning land use in the coastal zone, but not on the other types of major decisions specified in Proposal 198. Although hearings are required on changes in the boundary of the Conservation District, for example, the standing to intervene of persons other than those owning affected land or having certain official positions was recently made discretionary with the Land Use Commission. The effect of the proposal if it were implemented would thus be desirable. Question may be raised, however, whether the provisions of the proposal should be placed in the Constitution, although their generality may be sufficient to qualify them for such placement.